

# *Notelaea ipsviciensis* (Oleaceae), a new species from south east Queensland

Wayne K. Harris

## Summary

Harris, W.K. (2004). *Notelaea ipsviciensis* (Oleaceae), a new species from south east Queensland. *Austrobaileya* 6 (4): 973–976. *Notelaea ipsviciensis* is described and notes are provided on its habitat, distribution and conservation status. It is found in a very restricted area of south east Queensland.

Key words: Queensland, Oleaceae, *Notelaea ipsviciensis*.

W.K Harris, Queensland Herbarium, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha, Mt Coot-tha Road, Toowong, Queensland 4066, Australia

## Introduction

The genus *Notelaea* Vent., in Queensland comprises 11 species, three of which are new. During studies on the systematics of *Notelaea* and related genera in the southwest Pacific, Lloyd Bird of Bundamba, brought to my attention a rare and unusual form in the genus, which appeared to be restricted to the Ipswich area. This species is here described as new. The most notable features of this species were its habit and leaf venation in which the secondary venation arises more or less at right angles from the mid-vein. The full taxonomic treatment of the genus is to be published separately.

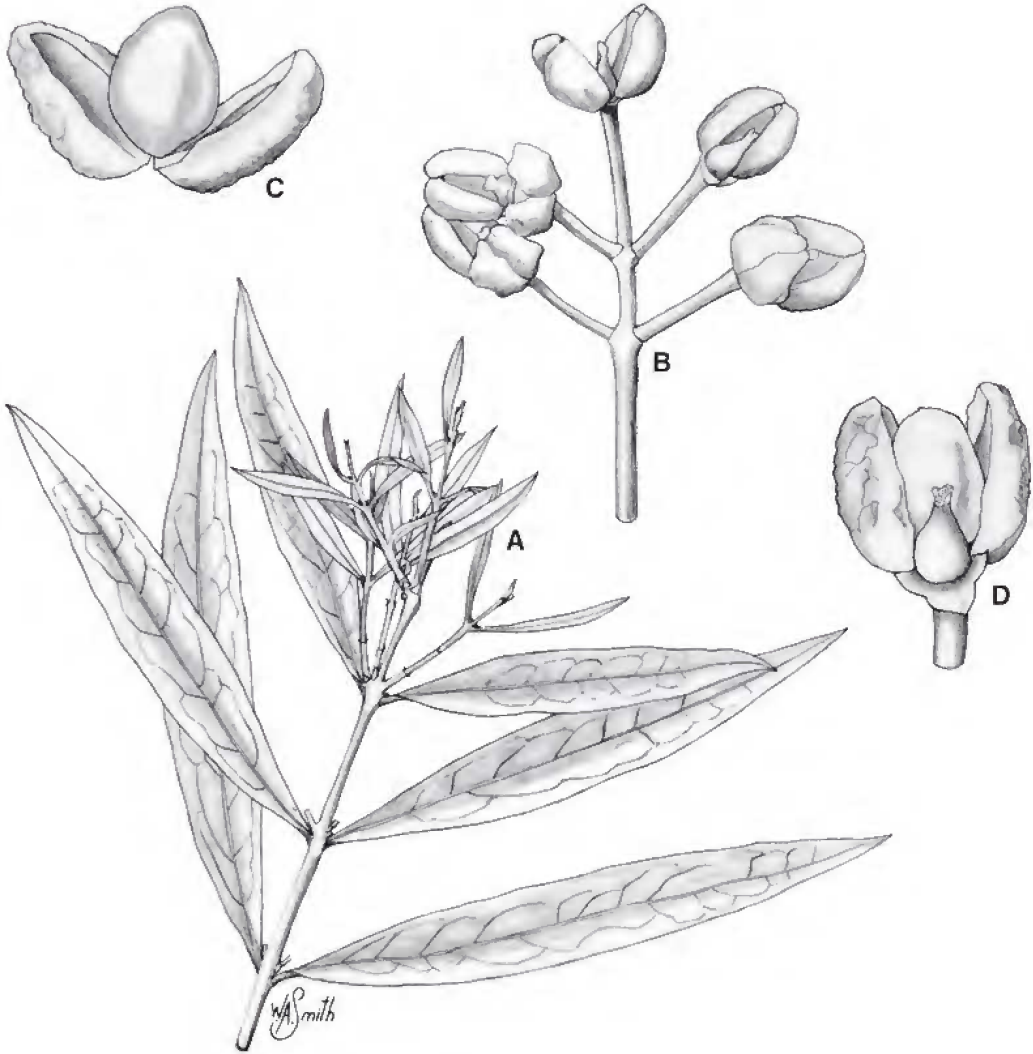
***Notelaea ipsviciensis*** W.K.Harris, **sp. nov.** affinis *N. ovatae* sed foliis lanceolatoribus (ovata in *N. ovata*) et venatione secundaria sub angulo paene 90° abeunti (adversus angulum acutiorem in *N. ovata*) differt. **Typus:** Queensland, MORETON DISTRICT: Rhondda Collieries, Bergen's Hill, Bundamba, Ipswich, Aug 1985, *Bird* s.n., (holo: BRI, [AQ 442082]). **Fig. 2.**

*Notelaea* sp. (Bundamba L.H. Bird AQ442082) in Henderson (2002).

Evergreen shrubs 0.5–1.5 m tall, multi-stemmed, forming lignotubers, stems erect or ascending 2–4 cm in diameter: bark pale grey, smooth. Branchlets puberulent with erect simple hairs, glabrescent. Leaves glabrous except puberulent base and midrib; lamina coriaceous, oblanceolate to narrow lanceolate, punctate above and below, punctae often more prominent on abaxial surface, 4–8 cm long,

0.8–1.2 cm wide (length/breadth ratio 7.5–10:1); margin entire, slightly recurved: apex acute to acuminate; base narrow cuneate to attenuate into the petiole; venation distinct and prominently raised above and below, tertiary venation distinct, secondary veins 9–12 pairs; juvenile leaves lanceolate, 6–10 cm long and 0.8–1.2 cm wide. Inflorescence axillary, up to three per axil, metabotryoids, 5–9-flowered, 1–2.5 cm long; axes puberulent, sometimes glabrous apically; bracts ovate to acute, sparsely puberulent on the outside, glabrous on the inside, 1–1.2 mm long, persistent; bracteoles linear to lanceolate, sparsely puberulent on the outside, glabrous inside, 0.8–1.2 mm long, caducous. Flowers, pale cream to yellow; pedicels sparsely puberulent to glabrous, articulate at base, 2–6 mm long. Sepals 4, glabrous or ciliolate at the apex, triangular, apex acute to apiculate, 0.2–0.5 mm long, 0.4–0.6 mm wide. Corolla induplicate-valvate in bud, 4-lobed; lobes ovate, concave, 1–1.8 mm long, 0.9–1 mm wide, joined in pairs above the base of the filaments for c. 0.5 mm, glabrous. Stamens 2, glabrous, enclosed within the concave corolla segments; filaments c. 0.2 mm long with a blunt terminal umbo; anthers 1–1.5 mm long, 1.2–1.4 mm wide. Ovary glabrous, flask shaped, 0.6–1 mm long at anthesis; style c. 0.1 mm long; stigma shortly 2-lobed, yellow-brown, c. 0.3 mm long. Drupe dark blue to purple when ripe, ovoid, 8–10 mm long, 6–8 mm diameter; mesocarp c. 1 mm thick; endocarp woody, c. 0.4 mm thick. **Fig. 1.**

**Specimens studied:** Queensland, MORETON: Ipswich Bundamba 1 km S of Barclay St Rhondda Colliery Land, 27.62°S, 152.80°E, Nov 1987, *Bird*, s.n., [AQ 436255] (BRI); Ipswich Bundamba Bergens Hill Rhondda Colliery, 27.25°S, 151.91°E, Nov 1985, *Bird*, s.n., [AQ 441680] (BRI); Ipswich Bundamba 1 km S of Barclay Stn Rhondda



**Fig. 1.** *Notelaea ipsviensis*. A. leafy shoot  $\times 1$ . B. inflorescence  $\times 4$ . C. Flower  $\times 8$ . D. Section of flower  $\times 8$ . *Bird s.n.* AQ 489221 (BRI).

Colliery, 27.25°S, 151.91°E, Dec 1985, *Bird, s.n.*, [AQ 441681] (BRI); Ipswich Dinmore, 27.62°S, 152.79°E, Aug 1985, *Bird, s.n.*, [AQ 442081] (BRI); Ipswich Bundamba Rhondda Colliery land end of Barclay St, 27.60°S, 152.82°E, Nov 1988, *Bird, s.n.*, [AQ 453056] (BRI); Ipswich 2km SE of Bundamba, 27.60°S, 152.82°E, Oct 1988, *Bird, s.n.*, [AQ 454151]; Whitewood Road Ebbw Vale Ipswich 400m E of the road, 27.62°S, 152.79°E, Jun 1996, *Bird, s.n.*, [AQ 489221] (BRI); 1km S of Dinmore, 27.58°S, 152.91°E, Jun 1996, *Bird, s.n.*, [AQ 586175] (BRI).

**Distribution and ecology:** Confined to a very few localities in the Ipswich area of southeast Queensland, where it occurs in dry sclerophyll eucalypt forest.

**Phenology:** Flowers appear in winter in July and fruits appear shortly after and are mature by October.

**Notes:** This species has its closest affinities with *N. ovata* but it differs from this species in having lanceolate leaves and a distinct venation pattern with the secondary venation on mature leaves arising close to 90° from the mid-rib. It is possible that this species is a hybrid between *N. lloydii* Guymer and *N. ovata* R.Br. *N. lloydii* grows in close proximity but the other putative parent does not occur in the immediate vicinity.



Fig. 2. Type of *Notelaea ipsviciensis*.

**Conservation status:** This species was probably more widespread in the Ipswich district but is now known from only two localities with a total of about twelve plants. It therefore satisfies several criteria of the IUCN (Anonymous 2001) categories of rare and threatened plants, especially population size of less than 50 individuals surviving in the wild and a decline in area of occupancy such that the population has been severely fragmented. It is suggested that the species is critically endangered with an IUCN category of CR

**Etymology:** The specific epithet is a derivation of the name of the nearby city of Ipswich.

### Acknowledgements

I am indebted to Lloyd Bird of Ipswich for his encouragement and company in the field. Will Smith (BRI) provided the illustrations of this species. Les Pedley provided the Latin translation of the diagnosis.

### References

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